DRONFIELD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

Health of Dronfield

For 1914.

By O. H. HUDSON, M.R.C.S.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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1914.

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area : 1,046 acres.
Population : 1911 (census), 3,943 ; 1914, 4,020.
Number of Occupied Houses : 1911, 944 ; 1914, 983.
Rateable Value : £12,765 10s. Assessable Value : £10,670 3s.
General District Rate, 3s. 8d.
Poor Rate, 4s. 6d. on Buildings, and 2s. 3d. on Agricultural Land.

Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate per 1,000, 25·3.
Crude Death Rate per 1,000, 14·9.
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000, 15·4.
Infantile Mortality (Deaths under one year per 1,000 births), 89.

Water Supply :—

Source of Supply : Moorland Water from the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's Mains.
Constant Supply during the year.

Scavenging and Refuse Disposal : By Council's own Carts and Workmen.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

For 1914.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in laying before you my Fourteenth Annual Report of the Health of the Dronfield Urban District.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.—The District lies to the South of Sheffield, and is wholly surrounded by the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary District. It has an area of 1,046 acres, none of which is covered by water. It is hilly in character, the soil is carboniferous, and the chief industries are coal mining, iron founding, and edge-tool making.

The Population of the district at the census of 1911 was 3,943, and the number of inhabited houses 944. The estimated population to the middle of 1914 is 4,020, and the number of inhabited houses 983. The rateable value of the district is £12,765 10s., and the assessable value is £10,670 3s. The General District Rate was 3s. 8d., and the amount of Poor Law Relief during the year was £525 15s. 2d.

The Births registered in the district during the year were 112, of which 50 were males and 62 were females. Five males and three females were illegitimate. The annual rate per 1,000 is 25·3.

Tne Deaths registered in the district during the year were 60, giving a crude death-rate of 14·9 per 1,000. There were eight transferable deaths viz., three registered in the district of non-residents, and five of Dronfield residents in institutions outside the district, viz., three in the Workhouse Infirmary, Chesterfield, and two in Sheffield hospitals, thus giving nett deaths belonging to the district 62, and a corrected death-rate of 15·4.

Infantile Deaths (Deaths under one year).—There were ten deaths of infants under one year, including two who were

illegitimate. The annual rate per 1,000 births registered was 89·2. The causes of death were as follows: Diphtheria, 1; Bronchitis, 4; Pneumonia, 1; Prematurity, 3; Marasmus, 1.

The number of deaths above ten years of age accruing in the following occupations were as follows: Workers in metal, 6; conveyance of men, goods, messengers, 1; coal miners, 4; mason, 1; all others, 7.

Sanitary Condition of the District. — The water supply of the whole district is supplied by the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's mains, except one house, which is supplied by a surface well. The water, which is moorland water, is plumbo-solvent in character, and in the past has been the source of much lead poisoning in the district, but owing to the fact that the Northern Water Board having put down percolating and alkaline filters to remove all peaty and acid matters, there have been no cases reported during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The outfall works are maintained in an efficient manner. The methods of disposal are by precipitation and percolating filters. During the present year larger sludge banks have been put in to deal with the extra sludge caused by conversion of water closets; and a storm overflow is in course of construction. Out of 983 houses there are only 61 which are not in the drainage area. These are all scattered houses on the outskirts of the district, and are served by sumps, which are regularly cleaned out by the servants of the Council.

Excrement Disposal.—There are 983 occupied houses served with the following conveniences, viz., 609 privy middens, 361 water closets, and 13 slop closets. During the year six new houses have been built, five of which have been supplied with water closets, and one outside the drainage area with pan closet. Thirty-two privy middens and one slop closet have been converted into water closets. There were notices served with regard to 22 privy middens, the works of which have been delayed in consequence of the unsettled state of the finances of the cottage property owners. I expect these notices will be complied with in the spring of 1915.

Scavenging.—The population for which there is public scavenging is 4,020. The whole work is done by the servants of the

District Council at an estimated cost of 3s. 2d. per house, inclusive of administrative charges. There are no details as to the different charges between water closets and privies. The middens are emptied regularly, in some cases every week, and in others at longer intervals, according to circumstances. The work is done in the early morning, especially in the main thoroughfares.

Sanitary Inspections of the District—The number of visits made to premises were 826. The defects and nuisances discovered were 159, for which 154 informal notices, and 49 statutory notices were served; these include 58 notices for conversion of privies, of which 36 have been carried out.

Premises and Occupations which are controlled by Bye-laws in force in the District, which were passed in August, 1907, are seven Slaughter Houses. Number of Occupations, one, viz., Butcher.

There is only one Lodging House in the District under the Bye-laws passed by the Local Government Board, 1893. This house has been inspected four times. It has always been found in a clean condition.

Medical Inspection of School Children and Buildings.—The school and conveniences have been systematically inspected during the year, and the attention of the School Managers was called to the insanitary condition of the latrine belonging to the Infant School. The matter, I understand, has been deferred owing to the expected alterations of the School Buildings. Practically nothing has been done, and it still remains in a very insanitary condition.

In all cases of notifiable disease, where the children are attending school, the head teachers are notified, and the children from infected houses are excluded until the house and clothing have been finally disinfected by your Inspector, and all danger of further infection reduced to a minimum.

The medical inspection of school children is carried out by your Medical Officer, under the supervision and direction of Dr. Barwise, the Chief Inspector of the County Education Committee.

Hitherto only the entrants and those leaving school have been examined, but this year all those children who attained the age of

12 years were examined, and special cases which were brought to my notice by the teachers. During the year 135 children have been examined. The School Nurse has made periodical inspections for verminous conditions. Twenty-three specimens of hair have been sent to Derby for ringworm; thirteen were reported positive and ten negative.

Milk Supply.—There are nine cowkeepers on the register, owning approximately 50 cows. There are nine cowhouses, which have been inspected 16 times. Three notices were served for nuisances, and all have been abated. The cubic air spaces for each cow in the cowhouses is from 500 to 800 cubic feet.

The number of inspections of premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale, were 44. One notice was served for nuisance in a slaughter-house, which has been remedied. There are no special arrangements made for meat inspection, but the slaughter-houses are visited and inspected systematically, and have always been found in a sanitary condition.

House and Town Planning Act.—Under this Act 58 houses have been inspected during the year. The following defects were found:—Paving of courtyards, 3; defective spouts, 6; defective doors, windows, and floors, 12; defective drains, 4; dampness, 5. Sixteen houses have been remedied upon notice being served upon owners, and two have been repaired voluntarily upon the defects being pointed out by the Inspector. Six new houses have been erected during the year; plans have been passed for 13 more. Fifteen of these houses will be let at a rental of 4s. 6d. to 5s. per week. At the present time there are very few unoccupied houses in the District. At the present time there are over 400 contract ticket holders living at Dronfield that travel daily to their work. The Midland Railway Co. run two Paddy Mails daily to take men as far as Slapwell, Bolsover, Staveley, and Grassmoor Collieries.

The Building Bye-laws in force in the district were approved the 24th day of February, 1909.

Zymotic Diseases.—One hundred and thirty-two cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, viz.:—Scarlet

fever, 79; diphtheria, 37; erysipelas, 3; pulmonary tuberculosis, 10; other forms of tuberculosis, 3.

After receiving notification of any infectious disease, the house is at once visited by your Inspector, and enquiries made, and disinfectants supplied free of cost, and after receiving notice from the Medical Attendant that the case has recovered and is free from further infection, the room, bedding, clothing, and all utensils are thoroughly stoved with Formalin vapour, and full instructions given to prevent any further infection.

Scarlet Fever.—Seventy-nine cases were reported during the year. Sixty-three houses were infected. The disease was more or less prevalent during the whole year, only two months, viz.:—April and July, when no such cases were notified. Sixty-three cases were removed to Hospital, the remainder being treated at home. There were four deaths, three being under school age. The annual rate of mortality is ·99 per 1,000.

Diphtheria.—Thirty-seven cases were notified during the year, one case being also notified as scarlet fever the following week. Another case was notified from a house which had been infected by scarlet fever three months previously. Thirty-three houses were infected. This disease is not admitted into Hospital except in severe cases were tracheotomy is necessary. Antitoxin is supplied free of cost in all cases on application of the Medical Attendant. There were two deaths, equal to an annual rate of ·49 per 1,000.

Erysipelas.—Three cases were reported. They were all adults and all recovered.

Phthisis.—Ten cases were reported during the year. Two cases were children of school age. Three deaths have been registered as belonging to the District, one which occurred at the Chesterfield Union Hospital not having been notified in this District. Another case which was never notified, on which an inquest was held, is returned as Tuberculosis of both lungs, predisposition to this disease being the result of accident in June, 1912. The other case was notified in 1913.

On receiving a notification the Tuberculosis Officer is at once informed, who visits the house, and advises the patient as to general hygiene, and systematic inspections are made. One case was removed to Brompton Hospital. The other cases are attending the Tuberculosis Dispensary at Chesterfield. The annual death rate is ·74 per 1,000.

Other Forms of Tubercular Disease.—Three cases were notified, viz.:—Two of tubercular meningitis and one tubercular disease of rib, the latter patient attending the Royal Hospital, Sheffield. The death rate is equal to ·49 per 1,000.

Whooping Cough.—This disease is non-notifiable, but there was one death in an infant under 1 year, which is equal to an annual rate of ·24 per 1,000.

Respiratory Diseases.—There were six deaths from bronchitis and four from pneumonia, giving an annual rate of 2·4 per 1,000.

Diarrhœa.—There was one death from this disease in an old patient. The death rate is equal to ·24 per 1,000.

Malignant Diseases.—There were five deaths from cancer, which is equal to an annual rate of 1·2 per 1,000.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

O. H. HUDSON.

February 27th, 1915.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1914 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected number.	Nett.						Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1909	3907	120	120	30·7	54	15·2	3	8	13	109	62	15·8
1910	3923	109	109	27·7	56	14·2	2	5	10	91	59	15
1911	3943	105	105	26·6	54	13·6		5	15	142	59	15
1912	3963	96	96	22·7	50	12·6	5	10	9	93	55	13·8
1913	4000	119	120	30	48	12	1	8	12	100	55	13·7
1914	4020	112	112	25·3	60	14·9	3	5	10	89	62	15·4

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 1,046.

At Census of 1911:—

Total population at all ages, 3,943.

Total families or separate occupiers, 939.

TABLE II.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Ttl. cases moved to Hospital
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	37	1	10	20	5	1			
Erysipelas	3					2		1	
Scarlet Fever	79	3	27	44	4	1			63
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10			3	3	2	2		1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3		2	1					1
Totals	132	4	39	68	12	6	2	1	65

Isolation Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.—Dronfield: Isolation of North East Derbyshire Hospital Board; Royal Hospital, Sheffield; Brompton Hospital.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the District.									Total deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
All causes — Certified	61							1		
All causes — Uncertified	1									
Scarlet Fever	4		3		1					6
Whooping Cough	1	1								
Diphtheria and Croup	2			2						
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	3					1	2			
Tuberculous Meningitis	2		1		1					
Cancer, malignant disease	5							3	2	
Meningitis	1					1				
Organic Heart Disease	7						1	5	1	
Bronchitis	6	3							3	
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	1		2					1	
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	1								1	
Appendicitis and Typhilitis	1				1					
Alcoholism	1							1		
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	5			1			2	2		
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	4	4								
Violent deaths, excluding Suicide	1								1	
Other defined Diseases	14	1	1			1		5	6	
All causes	62	10	5	5	3	3	5	16	15	6

TABLE IV.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of Age.

	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES { Certified										
ALL CAUSES { Uncertified										
Whooping Cough							1			1
Bronchitis						3		1		4
Pneumonia (all forms).....							1			1
Premature Birth	3				3					3
Atrophy, Debility, & Marasmus	1				1					1
	4				4	3	2	1		10

Nett Births in the year :—Legitimate, 104 ; illegitimate, 8.

Net Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 8 ; illegitimate infants, 2.

TABLE V.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, ETC.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	19	3	Nil
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	31	1	Nil
Total.....	50	4	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness ..... Overcrowding ..... Other Nuisances ..... Sanitary accommodation—unsuitable or defective	3	3	Nil	Nil
Total.....	3	3		

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Dressmakers	6
Millinery	2
Axeheads	2
Shovels, etc.	1
Wickerwork	1
Joinery	3
Bootmaking	4
Blacksmith	1
Bakehouses	4
Total number of Workshops on Register	24

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5 1901):

Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	3

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector, 1914

DRONFIELD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Name of Inspector—T. H. Atkinson.

Area of District—1046 acres. *Estimated number of Houses*—983.

New Houses erected 1914—Six.

Housing and Town Planning—

Number of Houses Inspected under Section 17.	58
Number Unfit for Habitation	—
Number Repaired without Closing Orders	16
Number Closed	—
Number Demolished	—
Number Repaired Voluntarily	2

	Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector.	Legal Notices served by Local Authority.	Nuisances abated.
Drainage—			
No disconnection of Waste Pipe	2	—	2
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains	14	2	14
Drains obstructed	27	—	27
Closets and Ashpits—			
Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets & Ashpits ...	12	1	13
Additional Closet accommodation	2	—	2
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	46	42	36
Defective Water Closets	2	—	2
Other Defects—			
Paving of Courts and Yards	3	1	3
Eaves-spouts and Down-spouts	6	3	6
Urinals defective	2	—	2
Water Supply	21	—	21
Offensive Accumulations	3	—	3
Animals improperly kept	2	—	2
Pigsties	1	—	1
Smoke Nuisances	1	—	1
Overcrowding	2	—	2
Water in Cellars	1	—	1
Foul Condition of Houses	1	—	1
Nuisances not specified above...	6	—	6
Totals ...	151	49	145

	Number on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ...	9	16	3	3
Bakehouses	4	4	—	—
Slaughter-houses	7	24	1	1
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	4	1	1
Totals ...	21	48	5	5

Infected rooms disinfected:—152. Method, by Formalin Vapour.

Other Action taken:—District systematically inspected.

Signed, T. H. ATKINSON.